

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00675 141825Z
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-06 NSCE-00 INR-05
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R 141307Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7559
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0675

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, PEPR, UK, MP, UNSC, FR, US
SUBJECT: MAURITIAN PERM REP RAMPHUL; POSSIBLE TRANSFERS
IN MAURITIAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER WARD TOLD AMBASSADOR
JUNE 13 THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED MINUTES OF FOREIGN
SECRETARY OWEN'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER
RAMGOOLAM IN LONDON IN LATE MAY. OWEN HAD COM-
PLAINED TO RAMGOOLAM ABOUT AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL'S
"DEPLORABLE" BEHAVIOR, PARTICULARLY HIS SPEECH ON
NAMIBIA. OWEN MADE THE POINT THAT VOTING WITH THE
AFRICAN BLOC IS ONE THING, BUT RAMPHUL'S EXCESSIVE
RHETORIC HAD PLACED MAURITIUS ON THE "EXTREMIST
WING" OF THE AFRICAN STATES, A LOCATION WHICH ILL
SUITS IT. WARD SAID HE HIMSELF HAD NOT MADE A
DEMARCHE TO RAMGOOLAM HERE ABOUT RAMPHUL, AS HE HAD
NEVER RECEIVED SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS TO DO SO, THOUGH
HE HAD CONSIDERED TAKING THE INITIATIVE AFTER
RECEIVING IVOR RICHARD'S REPORT ABOUT RAMPHUL'S
"POISONOUS" SPEECH ON NAMIBIA.

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2. MAURITIAN AMBASSADOR TO US BALANCE, HERE ON HOME
LEAVE, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR ON JUNE 8. HE MENTIONED
THAT RAMGOOLAM WOULD LIKE TO MOVE RAMPHUL TO LONDON,
BUT THE INCUMBENT THERE, TEELOCK, THOUGH ILL,
HAS DECLINED TO COOPERATE BY RETURNING TO MAURITIUS
TO RETIRE. BALANCE SAID SOME THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN

TO COMBINING THE NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON AMBASSADORSHIPS,
THOUGH HE HAS COUNSELED AGAINST THE IDEA AS TOO
TAXING. HE SAID HE HAS NO DESIRE TO MOVE TO NEW YORK
HIMSELF, BUT WOULD PREFER TO RETURN HERE (HE HAS BEEN
IN WASHINGTON TEN YEARS). HE CONFIRMED THAT THE
MAURITIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS, DARNE, IS RETURNING
HERE TO RETIRE.
KEELEY

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